

September 1993

OPEN ARMS

Vol. 4

Number 9

..... MICHIANA'S LESBIAN NEWSLETTER

A TEAM OF OUR OWN

With a "WAVE" from our fans, we say goodbye to our first season of softball. This ending marks the beginning of optimism for our 2nd year, a year that looks very promising and exciting as recruiting feelers are already searching out and contacting encouraging prospects.

As for our last game, a good night. Much better than the week before, in spite of having an umpire that was a rookie ump.

Susan ended her season with a beautiful catch in Center Field. Kelly showed us her stuff as she smashed a ball over first. Julie inspired us with her right-on expertise. If the hits get to her, she's got 'em. Go Blue! Let's cover Home. Did Judy catch that pop up or did she catch that pop up? Great play, Jude! - let's clean that mask over the winter, huh? and get ready for Season #2. Speaking of Catchers, what was Deb D. doing at 1st? Well, when Coach Sheree says to find 1st, that's just what you do. Well, Deb D's abilities should not be surprising, after all she is a Catcher. She catches the balls and gets her runners out at 1st. Still, darn good action for someone who never played that position before. Once again, Marcia commands our respect as she heats up the action in getting on base and moving around the field. If she has demonstrated this much growth in one season, I can hardly wait to see what she does next season. Patti got to reign at 1st later on in the game and, of course, did her usual excellent thing.

About our over-all 4 and 11 record. Not so bad. Whistle Stop Cafe was created and saw her first year, there were many Rookies on the team and Sheree took hold of the coaching controls for her first time. She kept the engine stoked and we continued to learn, grow, and pick up steam.



SPECIAL THANKS to Laurie for keeping score. We really needed you and you were always there for us.

To Deb W. and Patti for keeping the "UP" talk going in the infield. It helped A LOT!!

To Dee Dee for giving us our logo. It's a big part of us. (Sure missed you at L. Field.)

To both Lu and Sheree for all the running around, organizing, and uniform hunting you did at the conception of Whistle Stop Cafe. We appreciate all your time, energy, and frustrations spent to make it all happen.

Last, but not least, a huge Tooo-Toot to our fans. If fan support was rated at each game, our fans would have made us winners every time. Thanks to each and every one of you. Thanks for sharing your dogs, from tiny to tremendous, and thanks for sharing your birthdays.

If this season was worth coming out for, just you wait 'til next season. You won't want to miss the new action. We'll be building up steam and will really be ready to go to town.

'Til then, eat lots of fried green tomatoes!!

-Gloria

TEAM DALLAS

A Sports and Cultural event for lesbians and gay men will be held in Dallas, Texas on October 8-11, 1993. Included events: billiards, bowling, darts, golf, roller-blade & running, softball (women's and men's), swimming, tennis, and volleyball. For more information, call: (214)-521-5342, ext. 800.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

VIDEO NIGHT

In The Spirit

Marlo Thomas hooks up with another woman to get the bad guy. Lots of comedy.

Friday, Sept. 10

7:30 p.m.

Gloria and Julie's

Call for directions: (616)-684-4011



3RD FRIDAY OUT

Emporium

Corner of Jefferson & Niles, by the East Race

Friday, Sept. 17, 7 p.m.

Reservations due by September 15th

Call Lu or Sheree for reservations: (616)-684-6365

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP

Tues. 7-9 p.m.

For info, write:

LSG

P.O. Box 1281

Niles, MI 49120

GAME NIGHT

Saturday, September 25th

Potluck and games at Lu and Sheree's

Start at 5 p.m.

Call for directions: (616)-684-6365

SUNDAY BRUNCH

Plan ahead for Sunday, Oct. 24th

ATTENTION WOMYN:

Lavender Rhythm Dance Committee needs your help. We are looking for some womyn to help us plan and put on future dances. We need input on future dances and the good/bad from the last dances. Our next dance meeting is on Sept. 8, 7:00 p.m. at Shoneys in South Bend (on Business 31 north). Our next dance is planned for Saturday, Oct. 30. Look for more information in next month's Open Arms.

THANKS, LAVENDER RHYTHM

Lavender Rhythm once again stepped us through a fun filled evenin's event. The summer dance had a very good selection of music, door prizes, and a 50/50 drawing. Decorations added a lovely touch and attendance was good.

Thank you, Lavender Rhythm for creating a wimin-only dance space and for giving us something to look forward to from season to season.

MISSION STATEMENT

Open Arms exists to disseminate diverse information of interest to the Michiana lesbian community.

OPEN ARMS DEADLINE/MEETING

The deadline for submissions for the *October Open Arms* is *Sept. 10th*. Submissions can be mailed to Open Arms, P.O. Box 845, Mishawaka, IN 46546 or given to Mary, Sheree or Kaye. Submissions received after *Sept. 10th* may not be published in the *October* newsletter.

Newsletter meeting: Sunday, *Sept. 19th*, 1993 at Kaye and Marcia's, 6:00 p.m. Call 271-0338 for directions.

EVENTS COORDINATORS

3rd Friday Out: Lu & Sheree (616) 684-6365

Wimin's Video Night: Gloria & Julie (616) 684-4011

Game Night: Sheree (616) 684-6365

Sunday Brunch: Kaye & Marcia (219) 271-0338

EDITORIAL POLICY

We may edit any article submitted for length or content. We ask that all articles submitted be signed and typed, but will respect the wishes of the author by not printing her name if so requested.

PLEASE TYPE SUBMISSIONS IF POSSIBLE

If it is possible for you to type your submissions on a letter quality typewriter or printer, please do so using a 55 space line. This will make layout much easier. Thanks.

OPEN ARMS STAFF

Mary	(219) 234-5986
Sheree	(616) 684-6365
Kaye & Marcia	(219) 271-0338
Advertising-Maggie	(219) 287-3124
Subscriptions:	Kaye or Marcia



We decided to matronize Nicola's on the corner of SR 23 and Edison Road in South Bend as we heard that a sister group was treated poorly there and we wanted to evaluate whether this was homophobia in operation.

What we found was extremely slow service. The restaurant was not crowded when we first arrived and yet it was 20 minutes before our orders were taken. The place was getting crowded by then and it took another 30 minutes to get bread and salads except for the woman who ordered just a salad and explained that she needed to leave soon. The waitress promised to bring her salad immediately--it arrived over 20 minutes later.

The rest of our food came 45 minutes after it was ordered and the quality was definitely not worth the wait. The best that could be said of the speciality of the night, lasagna, was that it was adequate but not as good as Stouffer's frozen lasagna. The pizza was not bad if you like a sweet, not spicy, sauce. The Alfredo sauce on the pasta prima vera was like milk in consistency and taste and the vegetables appeared to have arrived at the restaurant frozen, not fresh.

As to our original homophobia question--results are inconclusive. There appeared to be dykes on the staff--but they were kept in the kitchen until business was so brisk they were needed to clear tables. We waited forever for our food--but so did people at neighboring tables although some people who came in after us were served before we were.

We definitely recommend that a salad bar be created so patrons (matrons?) can stave off low-blood sugar attacks while waiting for food. Nicola's will not make our list of regular haunts and we give it a  rating.

The Dinner Dykes



NON-HOMOPHOBIC MEDIA

A job fair for lesbian and gay journalists will be part of the convention for the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association that will be held in New York, September 10-12. The following papers and TV networks have agreed to be a part of the job fair: ABC News, *Associated Press*, *Associated Press Broadcast Services*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *Detroit Free Press*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Hartford (CT) Courant* NBC News, *The New York Times*, *Newsday*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Philadelphia Daily News*, *The Washington Post* and Gannett, Publisher of USA TODAY.

--info from USA TODAY, Mon., Aug. 23, 1993, 2B--

WATCH THIS ONE!

A television show about three women police officers, *Sirens* has a main character who is a lesbian. *Sirens* is usually shown on Wednesdays nights at 9:00 p.m. on Channel 28 but it has been shown at other times so check the TV listings. The lesbian character is the instruction sergeant for the rookie officers. In one episode she was wounded and while at the hospital her lover came to visit--outed on national TV!



Michigan Women's Music Festival #18

Many trips on Trail Mix took us to another world...A wimins world. We saw Kim at the festival shirt tent. She had a big smile on her face as she enjoyed her job of helping so many wimin find that just-right shirt. Barb seemed to be everywhere...at Tree line talking to wimin, at the Merchants Tents talking to wiminMaggie and Cammie sat near us at Day Stage to enjoy comedy. Diane Amos was raised by two moms, a black mom and a white/Jewish mom. What funny stories she had to share. Suzanne Westenhoefer wondered why the U.S. had to bomb Iraq. Was it because Iraq failed in their assassination attempt on Ex-Pres. Bush?? Marga Gomez had some distractions during her set. The Merchants Tents were about to close and then it started raining. Julie and I were forced to snuggle under our poncho, making our own little tent. We enjoyed the very best in comedy from 4-6:15 with M C-ing by Karen Williams - perhaps the funniest woman on stage.

The Merchants had lovely things as usual. Jewelry was very tempting and the book sellers seemed to be drawing a good business. So many books to choose from. We bought 6 books from Pandora Book Store of Kalamazoo, and received 2 complimentary free books. Just seeing River again and getting a hug from her gave me so much.

Ann and her new special other were out shopping. They looked so happy - like two kids in a fantasy world anxious for that next adventure.

As we walked from Downtown toward the Triangle, we saw Deb, as we do every year, under her THANKS FOR THE MAMMORIES banner... a fine contribution from St. Joe.

At the Over 40's Tent, we attended the workshop - AGING INTO POWER. We watched a woman 51 dance her own dance. It was a proud/strong dance and one that made me realize that getting older can be what I make it. She is more agile now than she was in her twenties. She was beautiful and inspiring...Ain't that right, Viv?

Back at RV Camping we find that we have old friends for neighbors. Nancy, Carol, and Nancy joined us for coffee one morning - right after they caught me taking a water jug shower by my truck. And Mary, thanks again for the invite to the 2nd anniversary of your 40th year party. I love it, you're a special person, Happy Birthday!

All 7,500 wimin seemed like friends..hope to see you next year.

--Glo

LONG DISTANCE PHONE PROGRAM BENEFITS WOMEN'S RIGHTS

By joining the Feminist Majority Long Distance Advantage program a portion of every long distance charge is donated directly to the Feminist Majority to promote women's rights. You can save up to 25% on long distance calls, have free calling cards and other benefits with this exclusive supporter benefit program. **AND IT'S FREE!** There is no charge to join, the program pays the standard switch-over fee charge by your local telephone company, there are **NO** monthly fees or minimums, rates are as low as \$0.099 per minute and a special program for commercial accounts. To join, call 1-800-435-6832.

NEWS NOTES

--Barbra Streisand is producing a TV movie, *The Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer Story*, about the former army officer who won a Bronze star as a nurse in Vietnam and was discharged in 1992 after 27 years of service because she admitted being a lesbian during an interview. Cammermeyer has filed a federal lawsuit against the defense department. Glenn Close, the co-producer, will star in the movie. --USA TODAY, Thursday, July 22, 1993, D1--



--The ACLU and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund have filed a lawsuit in Washington on behalf of seven gay service members challenging Clinton's policy on homosexuals in the military.

--Women's softball will be an Olympic sport in the 1996 Summer games and there is a possibility of including beach volleyball, too. Women's ice hockey will be added to the Winter games in 1998 and soccer is being considered. --USA TODAY, Jul. 30, 1993

--The state of Oregon has passed a bill to prevent communities from adopting anti-homosexual civil rights laws which stopped a group trying to put a referendum on the ballot. Governor Barbara Roberts has been a big supporter of lesbian/gay rights.

--Deborah Werksman, who used to publish *The Quayle Quarterly* now writes *Hysteria* a newsletter that uses feminist humor to look at the grass-root, everyday lives of women. To order, write: *Hysteria*, P.O. Box 8581, Brewster Station, Conn., 06605, 4 issues for \$18. --USA TODAY, Wed., Jul. 28, 1993

--Sally Bingham donated \$25,000 to the college education of Dr. Gunn's children. Bingham has written many novels and plays about the sexism in her family which owned newspapers and radio stations in Louisville, KY. After selling the communications empire, Bingham used the money to start the Kentucky Foundation for Women which helps women artists and writers.

--*The New Republic's* May 10, 1993 special issue, "Straight America/Gay America", had six articles on lesbian and gay topics.

--An article in *Redbook* "Gay on Campus" by Stephanie Mansfield, describes how colleges are adding lesbian and gay issues in sensitivity training for freshman, adding academic courses in lesbian and gay history and literature and starting support groups for students coming to grips with their sexuality.

--The May 20, 1993 issue of *New York Magazine* has a glossy cover story about lesbian visibility. The article was very positive and gave profiles of celebrity lesbians, national lesbian leaders and local lesbians.

--*Wisecracks* is a documentary on wimin's humor with interviews and excerpts from the work of: Phyllis Diller, Ellen DeGeneres, Paula Poundstone, Whoopi Goldberg, The Chicklettes, Pam Stone, Maria Callous, Robin Tyler, and more.

--Coming this fall-wimin in action! Meryl Streep will play a mother who goes hunting the nut who's threatening her family, Geena Davis stars in *Anne Bonny* as Anne Bonny the 18th century real life pirate, Sharon Stone is a gunslinger in *The Quick and The Dead* and in *Outlaws*, Laura Dern and Nicole Kidman are a part of a cowgirl gang. *Murder at the Nightwood Bar*, the film version of the lesbian detective novel by Katherine Forrest, is still in the development stages.

--On TV this fall, Paula Poundstone will get her own show, called *Phenom* about a female tennis star, her mom (played by Judith Light), and her male coach. Also, *Mommies* is a show about two wimin stand up comics raising four kids.

--Kent State Univ. is considering a homosexual studies course, "Sociology of Gays and Lesbians". (*Lesbian World* Aug., 1993)

--Martina Navratilova was honored at a fundraiser for the Gay Games in New York in July. A tennis racket autographed by Martina went for \$18,000 and a one-hour tennis lesson with Martina brought in \$30,000. So Linda, when are you getting this tennis lesson?

--The movie, *The Ballad of Little Jo*, is due out next month and is about a woman who had to live her life as a man in order to be a rancher in Idaho. Bet she had a wife!

--Cobb County, Georgia, passed legislation saying homosexuality is incompatible with community standards and have proposed denying art funding that undermines "family" values.

Looking
for a
HOME??

Lesbian couple and adorable kitten seek non-smoking roommate(s) to share comfortable house near North Village Mall. Two rooms available. Rent includes utilities. \$250 or \$230. Interested?! Call Julie or Ilene 272-0812. Leave a Message.



Books reviewed in LESBIAN CONNECTION available at the library:

The Shattered Chain Thendara House City of Sorcery
by Marion Zimmer Bradley

Other Women Palamino by Lisa Alther

Daughters of the Great Star by Diana Rivers

ON THE NEW BOOK SHELF

A Certain Terror by Richard Cleaver and (our very own) Patricia Myers,
Editors. Ann Arbor: American Friends Service Committee, 1993.

This anthology of essays, stories, poems, and other media is a book for reading, a resource for study, and a guide for action by lesbians, gay men, bisexual people and their allies. Organized in nine sections with discussion questions and lists of further readings, it is intended for classes, study circles, activist groups and all who recognize that peace and justice are indivisible.

NEW MAGAZINE

HOTWIRE: The Journal of Women's Music and Culture. Chicago, IL.
Empty Closets Enterprise, Inc., 1993 (available at Main Library-2nd floor)

NOTE: To make a long story of struggle short, the inclusion of HOTWIRE in the library's collection is a significant victory for the lesbian and gay community, and a large step in increasing the library's awareness of the informational needs of our community. It is a small (but hard-won) beginning. The library will be noting the circulation statistics of HOTWIRE, and make a judgement regarding the addition of other lesbian/gay periodicals based upon those statistics. **CHECK IT OUT!** Current issues of periodicals must be used in the library. If you read the current issue, leave it on a table rather than reshelving it. Tabled magazines are noted and used in determining reader interests. Thanks to NOW for the gift subscription and their persistent letters of inquiry and follow up.



**THE LARGEST AMATEUR
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*run,
Jane, run.*

Schedule Of Events

August 27 - September 19

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Aerobics	Aug. 30 - Sep. 19	See event description	
Volleyball Tournament	Sep. 11	9:00 a.m.	OutPost Sports
Mother/Daughter Tennis Tournament	Sep. 11	11:00 a.m.	Leeper Park
Women's Doubles Tennis Tournament	Sep. 12 & 19	9:00 a.m.	Leeper Park
5K Run / 5K Competitive Walk	Sep. 12	9:30 a.m.	Pinhook Park
10K Blade Run	Sep. 12	10:30 a.m.	Pinhook Park
1-Mile Fun Run/Walk	Sep. 12	9:00 a.m.	Pinhook Park
Golf Tournament	Sep. 15	8:00 a.m.	Juday Creek
Racquetball Tournament	Sep. 17	6:00 p.m.	Pro Health
Western Horse Show	Sep. 19	9:00 a.m.	Al-Bar Ranch
3-On-3 Basketball Tournament	Sep. 19	1:00 p.m.	Stepan Center



PROPOSED MICHIGAN AMENDMENT

If this amendment passes it means that any lesbian, gay or bisexual person could be fired from their job, thrown out of their home, or refused service in a shop **JUST BECAUSE OF THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION**, and this would not be legally considered discrimination! To help defeat this amendment, contact the Michigan Campaign for Human Dignity at: MCHD, P.O. Box 27363, Lansing, MI 48909-7363. Or call one of these organizations: The Triangle Foundation, (313) 537-3323, MOHR, (517) 887-2605, or The Grand Rapids Network, (616) 458-3511.

Also, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is sponsoring a weekend Fight the Right summit at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio on September 4 & 5. The fee is \$35 which includes breakfast Saturday and Sunday and Sunday's lunch. For more information, call Stonewall Cincinnati at (513) 541-8778.

Local Author Signing

**Patricia Myers &
Richard Cleaver**

editors of

**A Certain Terror:
Heterosexism, Militarism,
Violence & Change**

Little Professor Book Center
Tuesday, September 21
7:00-9:00pm

They will be discussing the roots of
homophobic violence and signing copies of their book.

**LITTLE PROFESSOR
BOOK CENTER**

Ironwood Plaza North State Road 23 at Ironwood
South Bend 277-4488 Mon.-Sat 10:00-9:00 Sun 10:00-5:00

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR LESBIAN RIGHTS

NCLR was founded in 1977, and is a lesbian/feminist, multicultural legal resource center which works through the courts, the legal system, and in the community to eradicate discrimination against lesbians and their families. The Center provides legal representation and advocacy, and community education about lesbian rights. NCLR relies on individual contributions and community support for its publications, programs, and legal services. Clients are never charged attorney's fees for work on their cases. Membership dues are \$35.00 (low income membership dues are \$15.00).

NCLR BOOKS:

A Lesbian and Gay Parents' Legal Guide to Child Custody (1989), \$10.00

Lesbian Mother Litigation Manual (1990), \$35.00

State By State: A National Survey of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Child Custody Decisions (1993), \$7.50

AIDS and Child Custody: A Guide to Advocacy (1990), \$10.00

Recognizing Lesbian and Gay Families: Strategies for Obtaining Domestic Partners Benefits (1992), \$15.00

Lesbians Choosing Motherhood: Legal Implications of Donor Insemination and Co-Parenting (1991), \$15.00

Preserving and Protecting the Families of Lesbians and Gay Men (1991), \$7.50

Psychological and Legal Implications of Lesbian/Gay Parenting (available through NCLR's Advice and Counseling line (415)-621-0674)

Partnership Protection Documents (1992), \$5.00

Boy Scout Bigotry: Fighting Back (1992), \$8.00

Sharon Kowalski Comes Home. Minnesota Court of Appeals Decision and Commentary by Nan Hunter (1991), \$4.00

Pride at Work: Organizing for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Unions (1990), \$5.00

Lesbian and Gay Men as Foster Parents (1991), \$15.00

To order books or get more information about NCLR, call or write: NATIONAL CENTER FOR LESBIAN RIGHTS, 1663 Mission Street, 5th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103, (415)-621-0674 or Fax: (415)-621-6744.

OFFICER FIGHTS MILITARY DISCHARGE

Lambda and the ACLU are co-counsel for Rev. Dusty Pruitt, who served in the Army and Army Reserves for 15 years before being discharged in 1986, after revealing she is a lesbian in an interview with The Los Angeles Times. In Pruitt's case the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth District ruled that the Department of Defense and the Army must prove the discriminatory policy is based on legitimate research and not prejudicial stereotypes. The Supreme Court refused to review the ruling so Pruitt's case will continue.

--info from *Lesbian World* August, 1993, pg. 1--

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Call Susan in Saugatuck at (616) 857-2586.



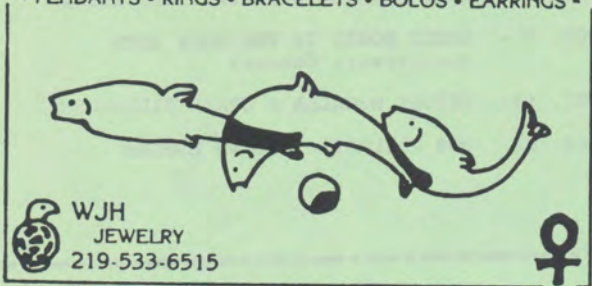
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SEPTEMBER



SUN MON TUES WED THURS FRI SAT

AA Elkhart 7 p.m. every Sunday	AA South Bend 7 p.m.		1 NOW Mtg. YWCA 7:30 p.m.	2	3	4
5 	6 Labor Day	7 Support Group 7 p.m.	8	9	10 Video Night Niles 7:30 p.m.	11 M 
12	13	14 ↓	15 Rosh Hashanah Reservations due for 3rd Fri. Out	16	17 3rd Friday Out 7 p.m.	18
19 Open Arms Mtg. 6:00 p.m.	20	21 ↓	22	23 Autumnal Equinox	24 Yom Kippur 	25 Game Night 5 p.m.
26 PFLAG Mtg., 2-4 p.m.	27	28 ↓	29	30		AA South Bend 8 p.m., every Sunday

ALL TIMES ARE INDIANA TIMES

OTHER COMING EVENTS

- SEPT. 7 - JANIS IAN at The Vogue Nightclub, 6259 North College, Indianapolis. 7:30 p.m. \$15 in advance. Branching Out Productions. (317) 637-2906 or (317) 255-2828.
- SEPT. 11- 5TH OHIO LESBIAN FESTIVAL with Susan Herrick, Jamie Anderson, Sue Fink, Casselberry & DePree and others. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the gate. 11 a.m. to midnight. Held at Frontier Ranch, Kirkersville, OH. P.O. Box 02086, Columbus, OH 43202, (614) 267-DYKE.
- SEPT. 11- NORTHERN LIGHTS WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL, Duluth, Minn. Info from Aurora: A Nortland Lesbian Center, 8N 2nd Ave. East, #210, Duluth, MN 55802, (218) 722-4903.
- SEPT. 24 - 26 WILD WESTERN WOMEN'S WEEKEND at IN TOUCH. Two steppin', line dancing, live bands & lessons in all types of country dance. Rt. 2, Box 1096, Kent's Store, VA 23084, (804) 589-6542.
- OCT. 1-3 4TH ANNUAL LONE STAR WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL on Guadalupe River. Info from P.O. Box 2650, Austin, TX 78768 (512) 929-0002.
- 4th Sunday - P-FLAG Meeting 2-4 p.m., Christ the King Lutheran Church, 17195 Cleveland Rd., South Bend.

THE FOLLOWING ARE ALL AT THE MADAM WALKER THEATRE IN INDIANAPOLIS. Sponsored by Branching Out Productions. Tickets go on sale 9/15. Call (317) 637-2906:

- NOV. 6 - KATE CLINTON with THE TOPP TWINS
- NOV. 7 - SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK 20th Anniversary Concert
- DEC. 14- DEIDRE McCALLA & CHRIS WILLIAMSON
- JAN. 22- DOS FALLOPIA 7 JoANN LOULAN



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